

## WOMAN'S HERALD

Devoted to the Household, the Fashions and the Activities of Women.

MARY MARSHALL, Editor.

DAILY DEPARTMENT OF THE WASHINGTON HERALD.

Correspondence is invited. Address all communications to the Woman's Editor of The Washington Herald.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1915.

## To Spare Tommy Atkins.

The English popular magazines abound in pictures of very pretty young women, clad in bewitchingly becoming nurses' costumes, hovering over the prostrate forms of wounded, but still stalwart and broad-shouldered soldiers. Apparently the dainty girls in these pictures are nursing the soldiers. They are at least usually soothing the fevered brow of the soldier with one of their own immensely small hands. It is this vision of the pretty girl nursing the heroic soldier that is usually uppermost in the mind of the woman who contemplates offering her services as a war nurse. The really experienced nurse—the nurse that knows that holding the patient's hand and soothing his feverish brow has nothing in the world to do with nursing—doesn't indulge in such air castles. And she is not quite so eager as the untrained nurse to volunteer her services as a war nurse.

And now the English papers tell us that England has had enough of these untrained nurses. The wounded soldiers are being spared from their ministrations no matter how fair of face or bewitching of form they may be.

The professional nurses of England, to the number of 6,000, have brought the matter officially to the attention of the British war lords. They are formally protesting against the intrusion of these sentimental young women, usually of high social position, who have formed the army hospitals and have very frequently been allowed to do a great deal of harm through their untrained devotion to poor defenceless Tommy Atkins.

## HOROSCOPE.

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

Friday, January 1, 1915.

According to astrology, the year beginning today will be marked by events unprecedented in the history of the world, and the United States will attain to new power. What will place it foremost among the nations of the earth in art, literature, and music, as well as in commerce.

The stars declare that "the great republic will not gain supreme distinction without paying a high price for it." They foretell times of severe national stress and danger, and forewarn rich and poor alike to be prepared to defend their country against great perils.

Saturn retrograde in the ruling sign of the United States, Mars, the Sun, and many troubles and a depressing condition of affairs that will be felt in certain lines of business, but there is promise of extraordinary prosperity and wonderful development for the whole country.

There is a sinister sign, supposed to be a warning of an increase of mortality among the young, especially among girls. An army officer who has attained fame will be among those who pay the debts of this month, it is prophesied, and a woman who is much before the public will die.

Mexico will continue to feel the passing of Mars, through ruling signs Capricorn, and little hope of peace is given by the planetary ruler.

Medical science and surgery will make surprising progress. A hospital scandal is prophesied, however, and controversies among prominent physicians are prophesied.

While the year may be a period of contrasting successes and disasters in material things, it will be a time of wonderful spiritual awakenings, in which social lines will vanish under the insistent impulse to serve humanity.

A surprise connected with the Panama-Pacific Exposition is probable, if the stars are read aright.

On this New Year's Day the planets are not friendly. Jupiter, Mars, the Sun, and Venus are all adverse. It is not an auspicious rule for seeking promotion or favors from persons in power. The government is an unlucky one for love affairs.

Persons whose birthdate is 1 have an augury of anxiety and trouble during the year. They should safeguard their health and be careful to avoid accidents.

Children born on this day may be self-willed. They should be taught to be truthful, as they may be inclined to exaggerate. They are subjects of Capricorn, and have Saturn as their principal ruling sign.

(Copyright, 1915.)

A small gas stove is a convenience for the bathroom at all times of the year. The bath should never be taken in a really chilly room excepting by persons of unusual vigor. Often early in the morning or late at night on a cool summer day the bathroom is uncomfortably cool and a small gas stove or radiator of some sort will make the temperature comfortable in a few moments and at very little expenditure of gas. The stove should be fastened to the gas cook in such a way that it does not interfere with the light, by a professional fitter, who attaches a strong wire device about the rubber hose to keep it from slipping out of place and letting gas escape.

## Do Women Dress to Please Men? Ethel Valentine Racks Her Pretty Head to Solve This Much Mooted Question



"Do women dress to please men?" This was the teasing question put by the representative of The Woman's Herald to Ethel Valentine, who takes the role of warden in "Today," the much-talked-of play that is coming to Washington next week. Most women have some very emphatic views about this question, and Miss Valentine was no exception to the rule.

"Today" explodes that frayed and tattered old theory, "was Miss Valentine's prompt reply. "Women who know men and who have the trick of pleasing men in dress as in other ways," she continued thoughtfully, "realize that the masculine eye is attracted by cleverness and good taste in dress, not by cost." And then, as she warmed to her subject, Miss Valentine talked so fluently that the representative of The Woman's Herald could scarcely follow her.

"Lily Warner, the woman whom I represent in the play, did not dress to please her husband or to win admiration from other men, but to please herself. She expresses this clearly enough when talking to her husband in the second act. 'I love to know that my gown is becoming and fashionable, that I have the newest hat; that everything is correct from head to toe. I love this and I love all pretty things.'"

"A clever woman knows that she does not have to spend money to please men. She knows that her gown is becoming and fashionable, that I have the newest hat; that everything is correct from head to toe. I love this and I love all pretty things." "A clever woman knows that she does not have to spend money to please men. She knows that her gown is becoming and fashionable, that I have the newest hat; that everything is correct from head to toe. I love this and I love all pretty things."

January 1—Betsy Ross.

Of all the women born on New Year's Day, there is none whose name is so dear to Americans as that of Betsy Ross, who was born 101 years ago today. Her father was a Quaker, one of the descendants of the famous Independence Hall, in Philadelphia, and Betsy was brought up to all the homely, thrifty, domestic virtues of the day. When she was twenty-one she was married to a young upholsterer and, as was the custom of the thrifty young women of those days, she learned his trade so that she might help her husband at his daily work. It was for Betsy that she did learn the business, for her young husband was soon called to military duties with the outbreak of the Revolution and was so badly injured while guarding stores near Philadelphia that he died from the effects. This Betsy was left a young and pretty widow at the age of twenty-four with the upholsterer's store in Philadelphia as her main support.

It was in June of that year that George Washington and several other patriots came into her little store. They had been appointed on a committee to select a suitable flag for the new union of States. The suggestion was made to use the stars and stripes found in Washington's fam-

"No man who is not in the dry goods business can define his idea of a well-dressed woman."

"You see some women whose clothes look as if they belonged to some one else. Men call this bad dressing."

"American men seem to know the value of everything except what their wives buy."

"When a man is in love with a woman she can wear royal purple velvet in the morning and striped calico at dinner and she always looks great to him."—Ethel Valentine.



ETHEL VALENTINE in two of the gowns she wears in "Today."

make women look young. Can you understand the difference? Very few men like violent colors, any sort of costume which hints between the eyes. They like smart lines and color combinations in tailored clothes, and the feminine lies in things which women wear around home. A man may not be able to tell you what a dress costs, but he knows whether it was made for the woman who wears it and whether it is her style. "Love blinds a man to clothes values, even to bad dressing. More than one man, blindly in love with his wife, has asked me to admire costumes that made the women look as if they had stepped out of a cartoon. When a man's de-

liriously in love with a woman, she can wear royal purple velvet in the morning and striped calico at dinner, and she always looks great to him."

"So, you see, whether a woman has put her particular little brand on a mfr. or not, she doesn't have to spend a mint of money to please him. If his love hangs over her head, she can turn the scale by wearing clothes that make her sweet and attractive. If he is already in love, he can turn the scale by wearing clothes that make her sweet and attractive. If he is already in love, he can turn the scale by wearing clothes that make her sweet and attractive."

After Christmas is ended there comes a lull in our shopping activities. Now housewives sit back and feel that they have a few weeks at least to save money. No more Christmas presents to buy, and it is still a few months before time to think of spring clothes. But this is only a pleasant fancy, for the really wise housewife does a great deal of buying at this very time of the year.

In the first place, we should look to our linen supplies, for linens of all sorts are being bought in great quantities. Blankets, too, and comforts are now placed at a tempting reduction in most of the department stores. So, too, are the linens of all sorts. So, too, are the linens of all sorts.

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## HISTORY BUILDERS.

How Secretary Seward Made the Alaska Purchase.

(Written Exclusively for The Washington Herald.)

By DR. E. J. EDWARDS.

With what simplicity some of the greatest events in our history have been consummated was strongly impressed upon me by a conversation which I had during President Arthur's administration with a gentleman who was familiar with much of the life at the State Department at the time William Seward was Secretary of State. At the time of my conversation with this gentleman there was no revelation of the enormous wealth which the peninsula of Alaska contained.

Millions in gold have now been taken from Alaska's soil and such experts as the late Maurice L. Muhmann were strongly persuaded that in time, when Alaska is open to transportation, her gold production will match that of any other of the great gold-producing regions of the United States.

William H. Seward, when Secretary of State, was anxious to secure for the United States the Alaskan peninsula. His son, Frederick W. Seward, told me a long time ago that his father's chief purpose was to bring into possession of the United States all of the Pacific coast line of the American continent except the comparatively short stretch over which the Dominion of Canada had authority.

Mr. Seward, about a year after Andrew Johnson became President, began to feel cautiously of Russia so that he might learn whether or not she could be persuaded to part with this peninsula, which at that time was known as Russian North America.

He discovered that Russia would sell but would give up its sovereignty on no other terms than a cash basis. At first, Russia's price was \$10,000,000. It was then reduced to \$5,000,000. Mr. Seward, however, thought that an excessive amount for a region of which there was only a faint knowledge and which at best had an climate similar to that of the northern part of the Scandinavian peninsula.

There was considerable whispering in the State Department that Mr. Seward had named \$5,000,000 with the expected result that a compromise naming \$7,200,000 was reached.

Mr. Seward was accustomed to receive informal calls from the diplomatic representatives of other countries early in the morning, frequently at the dinner hour, and sometimes late at night. One evening in the early spring of 1867, Mr. Seward was called by a Russian minister who was enjoying the fragrant cigar which it was his custom to pass around among his guests. Almost unannounced, the minister from Russia appeared, and said in a most informal way: "Mr. Seward, my government is ready to accept your terms. Russia will sell for \$7,200,000. It is convenient to you. I will sign the State Department tomorrow and we can draft a treaty."

Instantly Mr. Seward was upon his feet, and in three minutes he had the Russian minister cordially, as he said, "Why not tonight? What's the use of waiting until tomorrow?"

One of those who were present suggested that it would be necessary to light up the State Department and to search for the secret of the Russian minister's presence would be necessary.

"What of that?" said Mr. Seward. Long afterward it was known that his reason for this haste was that he had a feeling that something might happen at any moment to prevent the consummation of the bargain.

At midnight the State Department presented an appearance which it had not done since the days of the civil war. Many of its windows gleamed with light, and a few others were dimly lit.

Mr. Seward's office, the Russian minister and a few others were assembled. The draft of the treaty was made, the engrossing clerk put it into proper form, and the treaty was signed by Mr. Seward and the Russian minister.

"The first spring days will be left free for open-air activities, for walks and the first work in the garden." (Copyright, 1915.)

APPEALS FOR OLD LINEN.

Surgical Dressings Committee Issues Plan for Soldiers.

December 29, 1914.

Editor of The Herald, Washington, D. C.: Dear Sir—I feel sure that the people of Washington who are interested in the work of the woman's department of the National Civic Federation, of which Mrs. Woodrow Wilson was the honorary chairman, would be interested to hear of the splendid work which one of its committees, the surgical dressings committee, is doing in New York.

They are sending, on an average of twenty-five boxes a week to the different countries in Europe which are in need, these boxes containing uniforms, sweaters and garments of various kinds made according to Red Cross patterns and shipped through the Red Cross wherever needed. In addition to this the committee sends about 200 surgical dressings a week, the material being donated by the public and the work done by the unemployed in New York, thereby doing a double good.

The surgical dressings committee appeals to every one to send them old linen, damask, underclothes, anything white and clean to be converted into dressings after being carefully sterilized. As chairman of the District of Columbia section of the woman's department, National Civic Federation, I have already shipped over 300 pounds of such material of which they are most grateful and I appeal to you to continue to send me any old white material which I shall ship at once to New York. Address all donations to Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, 1828 Massachusetts avenue, Washington, D. C. Thanking you for allowing me to make this appeal, believe me,

Very sincerely,  
CHARLOTTE EVERETT HOPKINS,  
Chairman, D. C. Section, Woman's Department, National Civic Federation.

WAR CALLED FOR CHRISTMAS.

British and Germans Fraternized on Holiday, Soldier Writes.

London, Dec. 31.—A British soldier writing home gives the following description of the unofficial Christmas truce between the British and the German soldiers.

"On Christmas Eve we were shouting across 'Merry Christmas' and other friendly greetings. They shouted 'Don't shoot! We are all human beings!'"

"On Christmas morning the weather was foggy and there was no shooting, so we got out in front of the trenches and started wandering over to the German lines. When the mist cleared we saw that the Germans were doing the same thing. We were all unarmed. We got so close that five of them and five of us met and had a talk. They nearly all spoke English."

"After Christmas dinner, nearly all our boys went out in front, where we found the Germans also had turned up in force. The result was a huge mixed crowd of men, swamping both sides of cigarettes, etc. Some of the German officers came up and actually took our photographs while we were all sitting on the ground."

The Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Charles Sumner Hamilton will receive today from 4 to 6 o'clock.

Mrs. Rose Mahoney will be at home from 4 to 6 o'clock today at 120 Nineteenth street.

Lieut. and Mrs. Titton will be at home this afternoon.

Miss Ellie Boudin will be at home after 4 o'clock this afternoon at the Magnolia.

A reception to members of the Grand Army and other allied patriotic orders will be given at the G. A. R. Hall today from 12 until 4 p. m. by members of the Woman's Relief Corps.

Miss Helen Hill Hopkins will keep open house at her home in Park road for the class of 13 Western High School, this afternoon from 5 to 7 o'clock, to which all members of the class are cordially invited. Miss Hopkins will be assisted in the dining-room by her mother, Mrs. Randolph D. Hopkins, and the matrons of the class, Mrs. Brooke Lee and Mrs. Harry C. Bryd.

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